

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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USIA-06 SAJ-01 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-10

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FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2233

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ELAB, GR, US, TU, UK

SUBJECT: GREEK WORKERS AT AMERICAN PLANTS PROTEST
US/UK POSITIONS ON CYPRUS.

1. A DELEGATION OF THREE WORKERS REPRESENTING "THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE COOPERATING UNIONS OF ESSO-PAPPAS, ETHYL-HELLAS AND HELLENIC STEEL CO." (ALL PART OF THE PAPPAS INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX ON THESSALONIKI'S OUTSKIRTS) PRESENTED PROTEST TO CONSULAR OFFICER MURRAY AT AMCONGEN JUST BEFORE NOON JAN 31.

2. PROTEST STATES THAT AT "JOINT AND UNANIMOUS MEETING" AT THESSALONIKI LABOR CENTER PREVIOUS EVENING, UNIONS MEMBERS, HAVING HEARD SPEECHES DEALING WITH "ANTI-HELLENIC ATTITUDE OF GOVERNMENTS OF UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND TOWARDS OUR COUNTRY, AND WITH CURRENT MAJOR NATIONAL ISSUE (OF) VIOLATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS", HAD AGREED TO VOICE "PROTEST AND INDIGNATION OF GREEK PEOPLE" AGAINST
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USG AND UKG. "PROTEST OF ALL GREEKS -- SHOULD BE WELL

UNDERSTOOD BY AMERICANS WHO LIVE AND HAVE INTERESTS IN GREECE, BE CONVEYED TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS, WHICH SHOULD BE FORCED TO CHANGE ANTI-HELLENIC POLICIES, AND DEMAND THAT UNLAWFUL SUPPORT OF TURKISH IMPERIALISM BE STOPPED". THIS IS DUTY OF ALL WORKING WITH AMERICAN-FUNDED COMPANIES, AND UNIONS' MEMBERS THEREFORE RESOLVE (1) TO DEMAND ABOVE COMPANIES "STOP ANY TRADE RELATIONS WITH TURKEY"; (2) TO KEEP MEMBERS ON NATIONAL PATRIOTIC ALERT TO CONFRONT WITH "MASS MOBILIZATION ANY ANTI-HELLENIC ACT BY AMERICAN, BRITISH OR TURKISH GOVERNMENTS"; (3) TO DEMAND GREEK PARLIAMENT "CONTINUE TO FACE SITUATION IN UNITY" AND TO SUPPORT ANY GOVERNMENT DECISION TOWARD SAFEGUARDING NATIONAL INTERESTS: (4) TO PRESENT RESOLUTION TO US AND UK CONSULATES IN THESSALONIKI AND SO INFORM GREEK PARLIAMENT AND PEOPLE.

3. IN PRESENTING PROTEST, UNIONS REPRESENTATIVES WERE CALM AND POLITE, AS THEY HAD BEEN DURING PRIOR CALL AT BRITISH CONSULATE. IN ORAL PRESENTATION DELEGATION MADE FAMILIAR POINT THAT AMERICAN PEOPLE AND REPRESENTATIVES HERE GENUINELY LIKED, BUT PROTEST DIRECTED TOWARD AMERICAN GOVERNMENT'S "SUPPORT OF TURKISH CLAIMS". ACCEPTING PROTEST, CONSULAR OFFICER ASSURED DELEGATION MESSAGE WOULD BE CONVEYED TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES, AND EXPRESSED USG'S CONTINUING HOPE FOR PEACEFUL, EQUITABLE RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES, AND FOR MAINTENANCE OF TRADITIONAL STRONG GREEK-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP.

4. COMMENT: UNIONS' MEETING JAN 30 NOT ATTENDED BY FULL MEMBERSHIPS AND, ALTHOUGH MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED PROTEST UNANIMOUSLY, THEY COULD NOT AGREE ON TWO-HOUR STRIKE CALLED FOR MORNING JAN 31, WHICH HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED IN PRESS. ESSO PAPPAS OFFICIAL INFORMS US TOTAL WORK FORCE REPORTED THERE THIS MORNING.
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